Labour Laws

532. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second Labour Commission's recommendations to rationalise labour laws for liberalisation has not made any progress for the last one year;

(b) whether the labour reforms with amendment to Industrial Disputes Act and the Contract Labour Act rate are also pending;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to get them expedited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The Second National Commission on Labour (NCL) in its report submitted to the Government on 29.06.2003 has made wide-ranging recommendations on various facets of labour *viz.* review of laws, social security, women & child labour, skill development, wages, labour administration, unorganised sector, etc. The recommendations have been receiving utmost attention of the Government. The Ministry has already held intensive consultations and interactions with the workers representatives, employers organisations, experts & professionals etc. The Report of the Commission was discussed at the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29September, 2002, a National Seminar on Unorganised Sector Workers on 7-8 November 2002 and a Tripartite Committee Meeting held on 18-19 February 2003. The report was also discussed at the Consultative Committee meeting held on 30.04.2003. Based on these deliberations, a Bill on Umbrella Legislation for Workers in the Unorganised Sector is likely to be introduced in the current session of the Parliament. The amendment proposals in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 have been under consideration of the Government for some time. At the moment, further changes in the amendment proposal of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 is being contemplated in the light of NCL's recommendations. The matter relating to amendment proposals in respect of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 is under consderation of the Group of Ministers and is yet to be finalised.